

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL LYON

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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

RUFJCX /AMCONSUL NICE 0047

AMCONSUL STRASBURG

UNCLAS LYON 0161

C O R R E C T E D C O P U (PARA 4 LINE 7)

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : PINT,FR

SUBJECT : OPINION POLL FINDS MAJORITY OF FRENCH
PEOPLE IGNORANT OF FRENCH LEFT COMMON PROGRAM.

1. IN AN EXCLUSIVE S.O.F.R.E.S. POLL PUBLISHED THIS
WEEK BY ONE OF THE LEADING LYON DAILIES, LE JOURNAL ,
IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT 3 OUT OF EVERY 4 FRENCHMEN
AND WOMEN HAVE NEITHER READ NOR EVEN SKIMMED THE
COMMON PROGRAM OF THE LEFT. IN RESPONSE TO THE
POLL S SPECIFIC QUESTION, HAVE YOU ALREAAY PERSONALLY
HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO READ OR SKIM THE TEXT OF THE COMMON
PROGRAM? 67 0/0 OF THE MEN AND 81 0/0 OF THE WOMEN
QUERRIEE INDICATED NO .

2. IN A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL LE JOURNAL S EDITOR
INCHIEF, HENRI AMOUROUX, EMPHASIZES THAT THIS POLL
IS EXPLOSIVE IN ITS REVELATIONS AND THAT IT SHOULD
DEMOLISH SOME UNFOUNDED PRECONCEPTIONS. AMOUROUX
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GOES ON TO MAKE THE POINT MITTERAND AND MARCHAIS
TELL US THAT THE FRENCH PEOPLE ARE ENTICED BY THE
COMMON PROGRAM TO THE POINT OF GIVING IN TO ITS
TEMPTATION, WHILE IF YOU KNOW WHAT THE WORK SKIM
REALLY MEANS, OF THOSE 25 0/0 WHO AFFIRM THAT THEY
HAVE READ OR SKIMMED THE COMMON PROGRAM, MANY
PROBABLY HAVE NOT READ MORE THAN 50 OR A 100

LINES IN THEIR DAILY PAPER . HE GOES ON TO SAY
THAT THE COMMON PROGRAM NOW HAS 5 YEARS OF
EXISTENCE AND HAS BEEN GIVEN A TREMENDOUS BUILT-
UP. IT IS MENTIONED IN EVERY TELEVISION
DEBATE AND WILL BE REFERRED TO EVEN MORE IN THE
MONTHS TO COME AND WILL DECIDE PERHAPS IN LESS

THAN A YEAR THE LIFE OF EVERYBODY. BUT GREAT
WILL BE THE DECEPTION THE MORNING AFTER BECAUSE
OF THE UNFOUNDED EXPECTATIONS BUILT BY THE DREAM
MERCHANTS. FOR 3 OF EVERY 4 FRENCHMEN THE COMMON
PROGRAM IS ONLY A WORD, A SOAP BUBBLE UNDER THE
ELECTORAL SUN IN WHICH SOME SEE GOLDEN REFLECTIONS
AND OTHERS SOMBER IMAGES WHICH ARE ALSO DUE TO
THEIR IMAGINATION .

3. IT IS ALSO INTERESTING TO NOTE FROM THE DETAILS
PROVIDED IN THE POLL THAT 83 0/0 OF THE FARMERS,
81 0/0 OF THE SMALL SHOPKEEPERS AND 79 0/0 OF
THE WORKERS HAVE NEITHER READ NOR SKIMMED THE
TEXT OF THE COMMON PROGRAM WHILE THE PARTIES
WHICH DRAFTED THIS AGREEMENT CLAIM TO HAVE A
PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AUDIENCE AMONG THESE
SOCIAL CLASSES.

4. THE ANSWERS TO 2 OTHER QUESTIONS RAISED
BY THE POLL ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST. IN
RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION WHETHER THE COMMON
PROGRAM WAS CLOSER TO COMMUNISTS OR SOCIALISTS
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POSITIONS, 20 0/0 SAID CLOSER TO THOS OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY, 15 0/0 CLOSER TO THE SOCIALIST
PARTY. 35 0/0 EVENLY DIVIDED, 30 0/0 HAD NO
OPINION. FINALLY, IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION
IF THE LEFT COMES TO POWER, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING
WILL PROBABLY APPLY, 27 0/0 INDICATED THAT
THE LEFT WOULD HOLD TO THE PLANS AND PROJECTIONS
OF THE COMMON PROGRAM, 48 0/0 SAID THAT THE PROJECTS
OF THE COMMON PROGRAM WOULD NOT VE REALIZED AT ALL.
12 0/0 FELT THAT THE LEFT WOULD GO BEYOND THE
TERMS OF THE COMMON PROGRAM AND 15 0/0 WERE
WITHOUT OPINION.
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